

## **Gun Violence and Prevention**

**WHEREAS**, the National Coalition of 100 Black Women recognizes that Gun Violence is increasing and out of control in America today.

**FURTHER**, Gun Violence has disproportionately impacted Black people and communities, including but not limited to victims and the mourning families of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown and the nine members of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina massacred while attending Bible Study.

**WHEREAS**, corporately, the Coalition opposes and advocates against violence of any kind. The Coalition does not espouse that the constitutional right to bear arms be repealed, but rather that elected officials on every level move expeditiously to enact responsible legislation that will serve to strengthen the origin of the act and authorizes local legislation that will promote personal and community safety.

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Coalition understand that depreciated emotional wellness is a primary root casual factor in Gun Violence and mental health illness and awareness is still a mystified and difficult dialogue resulting in poor governmental, medical and community resources ;and

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition believes that the following are responsible steps to prevent and control Gun Violence in America,

**THEREFORE, BE IT *RESOLVED***, the Coalition will call upon local, state and Congressional elected officials to:

Enact measures to close background check loopholes and expand background checks for all applicants seeking to purchase weapons.

Reinstate the assault weapons ban. Restrict purchase of assault type weapons including Semi-automatic and artillery supplies (bullets, rounds and clips) to military services and law enforcement trained personnel to protect communities and this country.

Restrict the sale of ammunition magazines that exceed ten bullets and; approaches, responses and resources; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to violence in schools we think arming teachers or placing armed guards in schools is NOT a viable strategy

**THEREFORE, BE IT *FURTHER RESOLVED***, the members of the Coalition in chapters across the country will request that state, local and national elected officials increase resources for community based mental health counseling, programs and awareness initiatives to help promote emotional well-being and to create safer communities.

**Submitted by the NCBW Public Policy Committee**